स्रोत प्रणाली की रासायनिक गुणवत्ता में सुधार लाने के लिए भू-जल स्तर में कमी को रोकने हेतु एक परियोजना तैयार की गई है ।

Affairs of ICAR

1240. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ICAR Review Committee was set up in 1986 which has submitted its report in early 1987 and if so, the details of the findings/recommendations indicating corrective steps taken in each case;

(b) whether it is a fact that percentage expenditure on R&D in Agriculture came down to 12 per cent in 1984 from 20 per cent in 1958-59;

(c) whether the expenditure on Agriculture R&D has been commensurate with investments; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that most of the calculations are based on improvements arising from techniques such as seeds imported from overseas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) Sir, the ICAR Review Committee was set up in April, 1987 and it submitted its report on 25-3-1988. The report contains in all, 205 recommendations. Some of the important recommendations of the Committee are mentioned in the statement appended. (*See* below). All the 205 recommendations have been placed before Governing Body of the ICAR to decide about their implementation.

(b) The ICAR Review Committee in its report share of ICAR in the Central Government expenditure on major scientific organizations of the country dropped to 12% in 1984-85 from 20% in 1958-59.

(c) The ICAR Review Committee has mentioned that the estimated rates of return from investments in agricultural research for India have been high and compare favourably with those estimated for other countries.

(d) No, Sir.

Statement

Some of the important recommendations of the ICAR Review Committee

(1) For ensuring greater degree of effectiveness, the ICAR as a whole, including the 3 National Institutes, should continue to be a Society. The National Institutes may be conferred maximum autonomy and flexibility in the operational sphere.

(2) For providing greater operational autonomy, the ICAR should be empowered to amend its rules and bylaws, without reference to the Government.

(3) The ICAR should pay more attention to the economic analysis of its programmes and projects.

(4) The Finance Wing of the ICAR should be re-organised separating Audit from Accounts and greater emphasis be laid on internal audit and inspection of accounting procedures of the ICAR Institutes and proper accountability.

(5) The U.G.C. and the ICAR should develop a Memorandum of Understanding to enable ICAR to discharge its role in determining and maintaining the standards of agricultural education.

(6) The composition of Regional Committees constituted on the basis of agro-climatic zones should be revised.

(7) At the Headquarters of ICAR, an officer oriented system of working at all levels, with adequate provisions for level-jumping, as also Desk Officer system should be introduced. The

ICAR should also introduce modern office equipment and procedures so as to cut down delays and improve efficiency.

(8) The set-up of ICAR Headquarters should be restructed. Its staff requirements should be got assessed from a professional management institute.

(9) The ICAR should decentralise administration by giving greater autonomy to the Institutes, especially in technical, financial and operational matters.

(10) In order to improve upon the existing system of procurement, custody and accounting of stores, equipment, ICAR should immediately withdraw itself from the purview of the DGS&D and introduce appropriate purchase procedure.

(11) The ICAR may be given an additional one-time grant to modernise laboratory and farm facilities in its Institutes and State Agricultural Universities.

(12) The Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board should be made an independent and fully autonomous body with a separate budget, staff and operational procedures and should function on the lines similar to the UPSC.

(13) There should be provision in Rules for exchange of ICAR Scientists with State Agricultural Universities and other scientific organisations.

(14) The Scientists should be encouraged to improve their skills and knowledge through participation in national and International Conferences etc. They should also be encouraged to acquire higher academic qualifications and research experience by granting sabbatical leave in addtion to study leave. The duration of study leave should be increased from 24 months to 36 months.

(15) In order to enable Scientists to seek re-dressal of their grievances of general nature, the ICAR should create a Forum for the purpose.

(16) The mandate of ICAR should be revised to make it more broad-based.

(17) The mandate of ICAR Institutes should also be reviewed and revised to avoid duplication of research efforts in the Institutes.

(18) At the national level, the ICAR should create a Standing Policy Planning Committee. The crucial role of this Committee will be research policy planning and goalsetting.

(19) The working of Coordinated Projects should be reviewed and the projects which have outlived their utility should be discontinued.

(20) Transfer of technology programmes of ICAR should be adequately strengthened so that new technologies from Laboratories and research Institutes reach the farmers quickly.

Schemes and programmes for rural development under panchayats

1241. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the main schemes and programmes contemp'ated in pursuance of Prime Minister's declaration to spend Rs. 2,100 crores for Rural Development under the Panchayats;

(b) the amount proposed to be spent for development of cottage industries, farming, drinking water; roads and other facilities for rural development; and

(c) in what manner, this expenditure is proposed to be shared between the Centre and the States?